TOMB OF LIU SHENG, KING OF CHUNG SHAN, 154–113 B.C.

CARVED STONE IN SPRING GARDEN

[p. 4 (b)]

4: Burgess E-4, 5 (1926-1927) 1928 AF12 North China AF12

creasing in size and have held no meetings for some years. Among these guilds are the following groups:

(1) When the old style hair-nets became obsolete the guild that made them naturally ceased to function.

(2) The standardization of coinage by the use of the Chinese silver dollar has greatly lessened the work of the silver refiners. Formerly, when the silver tael was in common use, these craftsmen were kept extremely busy. The Silver Refiners Guild has been practically discontinued.

(3) As coal has gradually taken the place of charcoal, formerly used in the old-fashioned hand-stoves, the Charcoal Guild has weakened.

(4) Large numbers of embroiderers were formerly engaged in beautifying the costumes worn by members of the Court and prominent Manchu families. With the change of the government system and the consequent loss of power and wealth of former patrons, the demand for embroidery has greatly lessened. This guild has had no meeting since 1900.

(5) It was the custom in the Manchu regime for much of the tribute from the provinces to be paid in rice. The grain was stored in the government granaries and sometimes kept for many years. When sold it was considered a special delicacy. The merchants who sold this government grain composed what was known as the *Lao Hang* or Old Rice Guild. With the fall of the Manchu dynasty the payment of tribute rice was discontinued, the guild disappeared.

(6) With the increasing use of automobiles and the building of street railway lines, the use of horses and carriages has decreased. With the coming of the Republican regime the large groups of outriders that formerly accompanied the members of the Court when they passed through the Peking streets are no longer to be seen. The Horse Shoe Guild has, therefore, for all practical purposes, ceased to operate.